



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/069,642	02/28/2002	Katsuhiko Hiramatsu	L9289.02131	3592
24257	7590	10/28/2008		
Dickinson Wright PLLC James E. Ledbetter, Esq. International Square 1875 Eye Street, NW., Suite 1200 WASHINGTON, DC 20006			EXAMINER AGHDAM, FRESHTEH N	
			ART UNIT 2611	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 10/28/2008	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/069,642

Applicant(s)

HIRAMATSU ET AL.

Examiner

FRESHTEH N. AGHDAM

Art Unit

2611

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 July 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 22-23 and 27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 22-23, 27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-893)
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments see the appeal brief, filed July 29, 2008, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 22-23 and 27 under Parkvall and Nakamura have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the final rejection has been withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Parkvall et al (US 6,542,736), and further in view of Padovani (US 6,411,799).

As to claim 22, Parkvall discloses a communication terminal apparatus comprising: a measuring section that measures the reception quality of a control signal (e.g. pilot signal) transmitted from a base station apparatus (Fig. 11, step 150); an obtaining section that obtains from a received signal transmit power value information comprising information of variable transmit power of the control channel signal (step 152; current transmit power value) and information of variable transmit power value of the data channel signal (when the transmit power value of the pilot signal is maintained at a known ratio to the transmit power value of the data ; therefore when the transmit power value of the control channel signal is known the transmit power value of the data

channel signal is also known as it is evidenced by Padovani (col. 6, lines 49-67; col. 15, lines 30-41)); an estimating section that estimates the reception quality of said data channel signal measured by the measuring section and the transmit power value information obtained by the obtaining section (step 152); a deciding section that decides a modulation coding scheme to be used for the data channel signal using the estimated reception quality of the control channel signal (step 152); a transmitting section that transmits information of the modulation coding scheme decided by the deciding section to the base station apparatus (Fig. 11, block 110; Col. 10, lines 49-65). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teaching of Padovani with Parkvall in order to reduce hardware complexity by obtaining the transmit power value information that is used for modulation coding scheme determination by obtaining only the transmit power value of the control channel signal as long as the amplitude of the data channel signal is maintained at a known ratio to the amplitude of the control channel signal.

As to claim 23, Parkvall further discloses selecting section for selecting a target base station apparatus with the best estimated reception quality of the data channel signal from among all the base station apparatuses as a request destination of the data channel signal (Col. 3, lines 6-9; Fig. 11, step 158), wherein the transmitting section transmits information of the modulation and coding scheme used for the data channel signal decided using the estimated reception quality of the data channel signal of the target base station apparatus to the target based station apparatus (step 158; Col. 10, lines 49-65).

As to claim 27, Parkvall discloses a communication method comprising: a measuring step of measuring the reception quality of a control signal (e.g. pilot signal) transmitted from a base station apparatus (Fig. 11, step 150); an obtaining step of obtaining from a received signal transmit power value information comprising information of variable transmit power of the control channel signal (step 152; current transmit power value) and indirectly information of variable transmit power value of the data channel signal (when the transmit power value of the pilot signal is maintained at a known ratio to the transmit power value of the data; therefore when the transmit power value of the control channel signal is known the transmit power value of the data channel signal is also known as it is evidenced by Padovani (col. 6, lines 49-67; col. 15, lines 30-41)); an estimating step of estimating the reception quality of said control channel signal measured by the measuring step and the transmit power value information obtained by the obtaining step (step 152); a deciding step of deciding a modulation coding scheme to be used for the data channel signal using the estimated reception quality of the control channel signal (step 152); a transmitting step of transmitting information of the modulation coding scheme decided by the deciding step to the base station apparatus (Fig. 11, block 110; Col. 10, lines 49-65); a receiving step of receiving at the base station apparatus information of the decided modulation coding scheme (Fig. 4, block 62); and a transmitting step of transmitting at the base station apparatus the data channel signal according to the modulation coding scheme (Fig. 4, blocks 60 and 78). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teaching of Padovani with Parkvall in order to reduce hardware

complexity by obtaining the transmit power value information that is used for modulation coding scheme determination by obtaining only the transmit power value of the control channel signal as long as the amplitude of the data channel signal is maintained at a known ratio to the amplitude of the control channel signal.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to FRESHTEH N. AGHDAM whose telephone number is (571)272-6037. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chieh Fan can be reached on 571-272-3042. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Freshteh N Aghdam/

Examiner, Art Unit 2611

/Chieh M Fan/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2611